REMARKS

. . . .

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed December 21, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner identified four species that are patentably distinct:

Species (A), comprising claims 48-55;

Species (B), comprising claims 56-62 and 63-71;

Species (C), comprising claims 72-77; and

Species (D), comprising claims 78-82.

Applicants have elected species (B), comprising claims 56-62 and 63-71, without traverse. All non-elected claims have been cancelled.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the elected claims.

Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Beaus

Date: 1-21-05

Todd M. Becker

Attorney for Applicant(s) Registration No. 43,487

Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor Los Angeles CA 90025-1030

Phone: 206-292-8600 Facsimile: 206-292-8606

Enclosures: Postcard

Transmittal letter -in duplicate